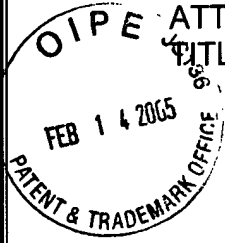


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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: BOTHW-001CB
TITLE: SCAFFOLD PLANK AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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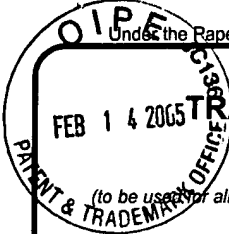
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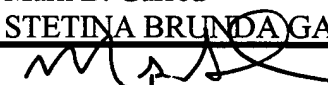
1. Certificate of Mailing;
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3. Response to Office Action (5 pages); and
4. Return Receipt Postcard

 TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/656,818
	Filing Date	09/05/2003
	First Named Inventor	Tim Bothwell
	Art Unit	3634
	Examiner Name	Chin, Shue Alvin C.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	BOTHW-001CB

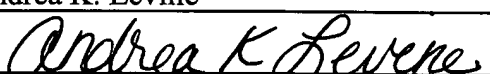
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Certificate of Mailing; and Return Receipt Postcard
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Mark B. Garred STETINA BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER - Customer No. 007663		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Tim Bothwell)	Confirmation No.	9411
)		
Serial No.:	10/656,818)	Art Unit:	3634
)		
Filed:	09/05/2003)	Examiner:	Chin, Shue, Alvin C.
)		
For:	Scaffold Plank and Method of Making)		
	Same)		

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Applicant hereby responds to the Office Action mailed December 9, 2004 in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 6, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Farmer (sic) reference. Additionally, the Examiner rejected Claims 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the Farner and EP'612 references. Further, Claims 3 and 15 were rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the Farner and De Varney references, with Claim 10 being rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the Farner and Waters references. Finally, Claims 14 and 16 were rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the Farner and EP'855 references, with Claim 9 being rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the Farner, EP'612 and EP'476 references.

Applicant was unable to locate De Varney reference from the USPTO web site. In the Notice of References Cited document this particular reference is identified as De Vaney rather than De Varney, and assigned Patent No. 225,737. However, Patent No. 225,737 identifies Wagner and Friedrich as the inventors.